



FARMERS HAVE RIGHTS WHICH CANNOT BE IGNORED.

(Written Specially for The Bulletin.)

It isn't often that a newspaper in a large city publishes anything sensible, much less anything sympathetic about farmers and farming. Take the New York city papers, for illustration. Although lots of the men who work on them and write for them were born on farms and owe their standing to their boyish surroundings, they usually may be trusted to display ignorance of farming conditions and contempt for farmers every time they deign to admit their existence.

It was, therefore, with much surprise and no little admiration that I noted in The Knickerbocker-Peak of Albany, N. Y., the other day a really pointed and timely editorial, fairly demanding that the country wake up to the fact that farmers have rights as well as labor unions.

I don't agree with all of the paper's suggestions or conclusions. You probably won't, either. But I want you to read it, nevertheless. And so I am going to ask The Bulletin to print it, just as it appeared, this morning. You and I can talk about it, if we want to, later on.

Here is the article:

"In the last few years labor has pressed its rights and interests so forcefully upon the public attention that it has come to be admitted without argument that labor must always be taken care of; that it must be nurtured and protected and assured a constant betterment. This is quite right; labor ought to have every alleviation which an increasing degree of civilization can provide for it. It ought to have free and untrammelled opportunity to rise, and it ought to be guaranteed, of course, against injustice.

"But labor is not the only element in society which should have constant consideration of this sort. The farmers, for instance, are not less important than labor but to the existence of the country—maybe they are more important, but that is too long a question to argue here—and yet there is no disposition to make allowances for the farmer, to regard his progress kindly, or to insist upon his being seated at the first table, whenever there are good things to be divided.

There is, indeed, a tendency to assume that the farmer is a fixture, that he will always be about where he is now, continuing to plow and sow and reap regardless of changes in the body politic. There is even a tendency to say of him that he is always protesting anyway, complaining of the heat in dry spells and of the chilliness and moisture when it rains; never satisfied, yet ever secure in his living, and, while having little ready cash, really needing little because he has no opportunity to spend it. The farmer's hard work is a classic matter also; the world of the farm accents it as a matter of course and wastes no thought about it.

"But the farmer is not a fixture. He is leaving the farm by thousands and tens of thousands, and his place is not being filled. With city population increasing three or four times as rapidly as country population, there is little fact left in the notion that the farmer may always be depended upon to stand by his tasks regardless of toil or profit. Only suppose that the remaining farmers, for instance, should apply to themselves for a single season the principles of the shortened work day and the restricted output which are so fashionable in labor circles. There would be a disaster that would make the sufferings of war-time look like a Sunday school picnic. The nation would go bankrupt; starvation would set in, and the government itself might collapse.

"Of course, the farmers are not going to do anything of the sort, though it must be admitted that they have as much right to reduce their efficiency and their output as any other men possess. The farmers are not even going to lay down ultimatums, requiring that this thing or that be accomplished for their benefit. Instead, if the people do not awaken presently to the fact that it is a national duty to make farm life more pleasant and profitable, they are likely, one by one, and without any concerted action, to restrict the scope of their agriculture so as to provide only for the immediate needs of their families, or else to drop quietly out of the struggle which has become too one-sided for the times.

"This is all wrong, for farming of itself is—or rather ought to be—a thoroughly delightful occupation for men and women who understand it. If it has been allowed to degenerate into other occupations in its pleasantness, and especially in its profits, it ought not to be difficult for the public to set remedies in action. The point is to make the people realize the necessity of such action and the dangers of postponing it.

"Some of the things the farmer is entitled to as a matter of right under the circumstances of present day society are:

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When those sharp pains go shooting through your head, when your skull seems as if it would split, just rub a little Musterole on your temples and neck. It draws out the inflammation, soothes the pain, and gives you quick relief. Musterole is a clean, white ointment, made with oil of mustard. Better than a mustard plaster and does not blister. Many doctors and nurses frankly recommend Musterole for sore throat, bronchitis, croup, stiff neck, asthma, neuralgia, congestion, pleurisy, rheumatism, lumbago, pains and aches of the back or joints, sprains, sore muscles, bruises, chilblains, frost-bite—cold of the chest (it often prevents pneumonia). It is always dependable. 30c and 60c jars; hospital size \$2.50.



CENTRAL VILLAGE

Miss Lillian Cooper of New London spent Sunday at her home.

Miss Jane Mahoney spent Sunday at her home in Norwich.

Samuel Collins and son Emerson, who are employed in Fall River, Mass., spent Sunday at their home.

More coal has arrived this week for the Farmworth-Plumley mill. The coal shortage has caused some anxiety but it is hoped supplies will arrive fast enough to keep the mill running steadily. Wood is being used at the Central worsted mill at present. A large swamp, known as Cedar swamp for many years, is being cleared of its trees and much of the wood is being brought to the mill.

Conductor Ruse of Norwich, formerly of this village, spent Sunday with local friends.

The Christian Endeavor society is to meet Friday evening at 7 o'clock. At 8 o'clock the candidates for admission to the membership of the church on Easter Sunday, April 4th, will meet the standing committee of the church to be accepted.

Miss Miriam Chapman has returned to her duties as organist at the church, having recovered from illness.

Albert Brown, Jr., remains at the Backus hospital, Norwich, where he underwent a successful operation for removal of an abscess in his side.

William Simons, who is spending the winter in Norwich, and his grand-daughter, Miss Miriam Vaughn, of Norwich, spent Thursday here.

Judge Edgar M. Warner of Putnam was a visitor here Thursday. He was a former resident here for several years.

Mr. Allan Moffett of Wauregan, formerly of this village, has been the guest of Mr. George Potvin.

Harold Frances is at Jamestown, R. I., where his brother Clarence remains critically ill at his home.

Miss Irene White, a nurse at the Backus hospital, Norwich, has been a guest at the home of her brother, Ernest White.

No Christian Endeavor service was held Friday evening on account of the storm.

Miss Odna Seguin of Providence spent Sunday at her home.

Miss Charles Barber, who has been spending the winter in Norwich, spent Monday here.

The teachers' training class will meet this (Thursday) evening with Miss Ruth Matheson.

Miss Harriett Stark, who has been very ill, is slowly improving.

The girls' club held a very successful food sale at Thompson's store Friday evening. The committee was Miss Susan Lepple, chairman, Miss Emma Bradley and Miss Cassie Medbury, who worked faithfully and succeeded in adding \$43.25 to the club treasury.

The price cake made by a member of the club was given to Alfred Faucher. All the food was quickly sold as soon as the sale opened. The club has

given to the treasurer of the Central Village Improvement society \$100 to be added to the fund for the street electric lights which are soon to be installed, having promised the largest amount of money of any club or society in the village.

WESTMINSTER

The Bulletin's report of last week Saturday's weather was rain and fog, colder at night, with snow. Westminster had all that, and high wind. This produced the condition of nearly unusable roads and very few able to attend Sunday morning worship, which was held at the parsonage.

The 27th Psalm was the pastor's subject, and enlistment in the army of Christ was emphasized.

The chain of prayer at home altars for Wednesday evening, March 24, is Quibbling. The Bible passage Matt. 23, especially v. 29, "Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God." Character consists not so much in what we are as in what we are becoming.

The community at large and her pupils and their families at Gayhead district are saddened by the serious illness of Miss Esther Kimball. About two weeks ago Miss Kimball was called to her home in Pomfret by the illness of her mother. She returned and taught her school last Wednesday but has since been ill in the home of Mrs. P. LaChapelle, where she is boarding.

Meanwhile her school is not in session. Westminster and some of the other schools are working hard on their programs for the close of the term.

At the republican caucus held at Canterbury town hall last week Edward Baker, Lem Carpenter, Herbert Williams and E. Fitch Johnson were elected to attend the state convention at New Haven March 23 and 24 to elect delegates to the national convention.

Mrs. Ethel Dusenberry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Johnson, was united in marriage Monday of last week in New York city with Lewis Hines of that city. Her sister, Mrs. George Baylis, was a matron of honor.

Mr. and Mrs. Hines are soon to start on a trip to Europe, to be gone some time.

Mr. Simon Rosenberg is expecting her daughters from New York to visit her during the Easter holidays.

Benjamin Davies, who recently lost his house by fire, has been selling his sheep, preparatory to engaging in other business.

Mr. Allen Moody is entertaining a friend from New York.

Two hundreds were seen in Westminster lately.

Cheshire—George C. Erskine, superintendent of the Connecticut reformatory at Cheshire, started Wednesday from New York for a short stay at Bermuda, expecting to be back the latter part of the month. He has been considerably run down in health and he gets on the advice of his physician.

HAMPTON

Miss Ella Sharpe, who has been ill with influenza, is better, and is now living with her sister, Mrs. Alice Hammond.

John H. Fitts, who is residing in his new home, formerly known as the Durges place, has sold his farm to Carl W. Jewett.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hoffman, formerly of Hampton, who have been living in Hartford this winter, have rented the house owned by Miss Mary McMahon and expect to make their home here soon.

Miss Evelyn Pearl, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Ernest Emmons, of Williamsville, has returned home.

Joseph Burchinal lost a valuable heirloom one day last week, the animal breaking its leg on the ice.

H. D. Porter has moved his family into Mrs. Congdon's tenement and is now in West Virginia on business.

Rev. Charles G. Fogg, who has been ill with influenza, is able to be out. No services have been held at the Congregational church for several weeks owing to the bad condition of the roads.

ATTAWAUGAN

Mrs. Della L'Honnme of Attawaugan has received a letter from the war department informing her that the body of her son, Private Leo L'Honnme, had been disinterred and reburied in grave No. 150, section 33, plot 4, Argonne American cemetery, No. 1231, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse).

The letter also stated that a photograph of his grave has been taken by a section of the American Red Cross assigned to the staff of the graves registration service and will be sent to her later.

BOLTON NOTCH

M. W. Howard was in New London Tuesday.

Mrs. Ida Fuller was in Manchester Wednesday.

Mrs. H. B. DeWolf was a Hartford visitor Wednesday.

Emory Strong went to Waterbury Wednesday to see his brother William.



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who is critically ill with pneumonia. Mrs. Estelle Reed was a Hartford visitor Friday.

Mr. Osgood, who has worked for F. C. Atkins two years as boss farmer, is moving to Manchester. Ernest Howard takes his place on the Atkins farm.

Vincent Taylor, who has been working with his horses in Hartford for the telephone company, has come home. He is to work for the company here.

CENTRE GROTON

Recent rains have flooded the swamps and brooks are overflowing the roads in many places. Wells are flooded with surface water and cellars in several places have over a foot of water in them.

Mrs. Moses Colver, who has been ill for several months at her home, is not so well, having spent several restless nights.

Miss C. F. Bailey has been ill for the past few days.

The phiblic club met at G. W. Bailey's Friday evening.

G. P. Colver's family has moved into the home of Mr. Colver's mother, Mrs. Moses Colver, temporarily.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank King have

leased the Copp farm and until the present occupants, Everett Crandall and family, move, have moved into the Martin house near by.

WOODSTOCK VALLEY

Raymond Esterbrook, a petty officer in the U. S. navy, has returned to the valley, having been discharged after four years' service.

Ferdinand Kenyon, who enlisted at the same time, is also at his home here.

Mrs. Emma Blackmar's little boy Roland is at the Day Kimball hospital, Putnam, recovering from blood poisoning.

Miss Edith Carpenter has recovered from her recent illness.

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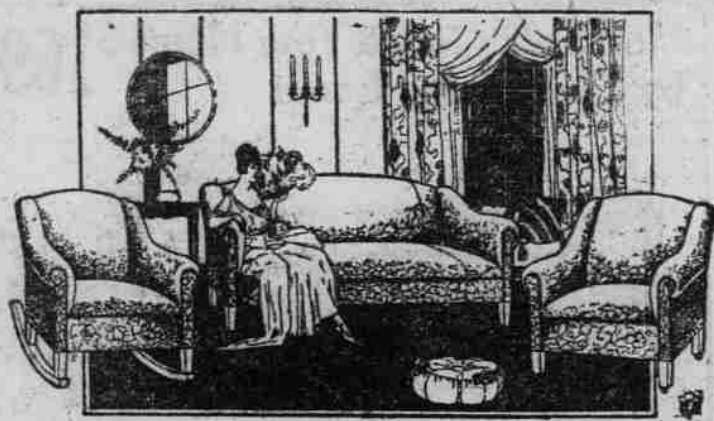
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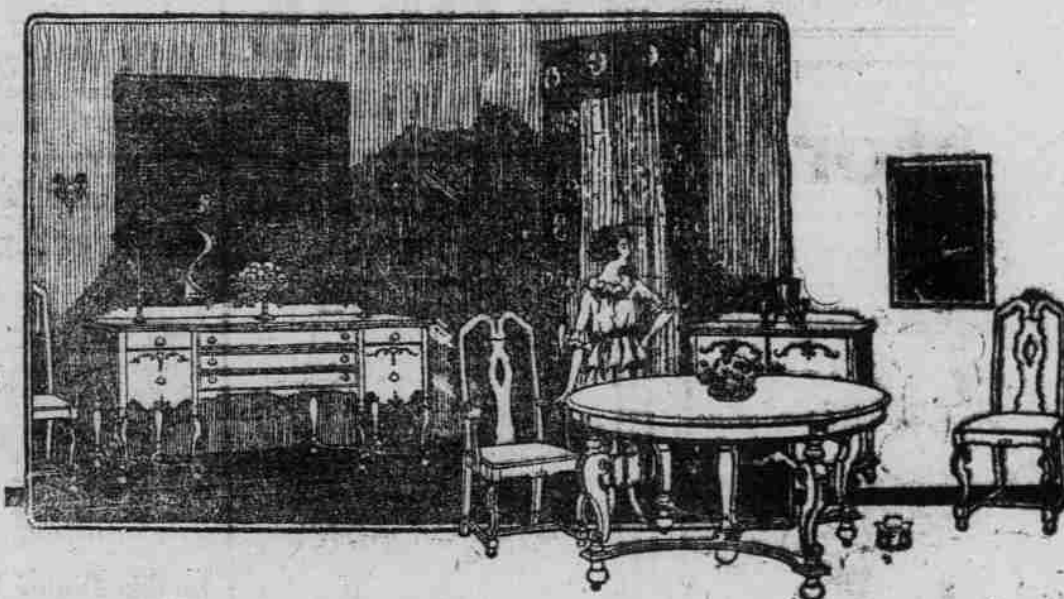
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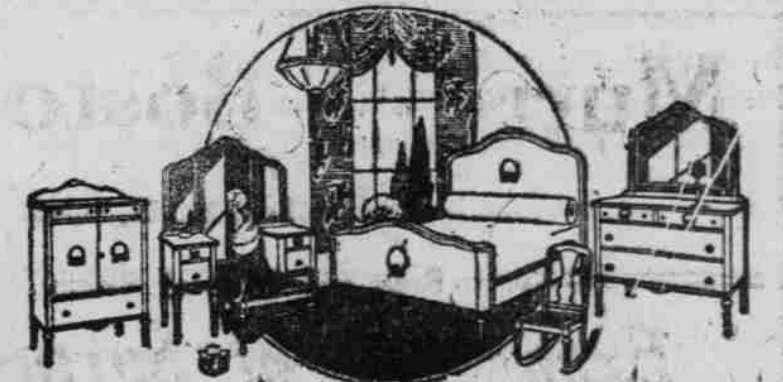
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